

10 WAYS

FOR THE COMMUNITY TO HELP PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS



To learn more about homelessness and solutions that work, please visit the Office of Housing website at www.honolulu.gov/housing. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact the Office of Housing (OfficeofHousing@honolulu.gov; 808.768.4675).

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- 1 See someone in need, call for help.**
When you see someone or a group who needs help, contact the State-wide Homeless Help line at gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov or 808.586.0193. Please make a special effort to contact the help line if you see someone or a group at the same location on multiple days.
- 2 Give information.**
When approached by someone asking for money, if you feel comfortable, consider smiling and declining politely, suggesting they contact Aloha United Way 2-1-1 for assistance (dial 211 or visit www.auw211.org).
- 3 Find and connect with a nonprofit who serves those experiencing homelessness in your community.**
Learn and work together to help those in need. Not everything we think helps people really does! Visit www.auw211.org to locate service providers in your area.
- 4 Donate food.**
If you would like to donate food to someone in need (including leftover food after a party or picnic), consider contacting a provider in your area or the Office of Housing (OfficeofHousing@honolulu.gov; 808.768.4675) to locate providers in your area.
- 5 Welcome a speaker on homelessness to engage with you and your community.**
Invite a speaker on homelessness into your faith-based community, business, service organization, or social club. Providers and government agencies will gladly accommodate your request. Contact the Office of Housing (OfficeofHousing@honolulu.gov; 808.768.4675) for suggested resources.
- 6 Become more informed.**
Visit the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (www.usich.gov) and the National Alliance to End Homelessness (www.endhomelessness.org) websites, and attend the annual Statewide Homelessness Conference held in November. Information on the conference and other resources is posted on the Partners in Care website at www.partnersincareoahu.org.
- 7 Become the welcoming community an individual or family facing homelessness needs.**
Ask your faith-based community or favorite service organization to collaborate and align efforts to end homelessness in your community. Many homeless individuals and families are looking for communities and networks to become a part of as they move into their new homes. Consider working with a nonprofit to welcome an individual or family in need as they embark on their move!
- 8 Consider renting a unit to an individual or family seeking to move out of homelessness.**
If you're a landlord consider utilizing your unit to support an individual or family seeking to move out of homelessness. Often the homeless family or individual is working with a nonprofit who offers support and assistance both to the tenant and the landlord. To be connected to a nonprofit and to discuss any questions you may have, contact the Office of Housing (OfficeofHousing@honolulu.gov; 808.768.4675).
- 9 Be an advocate.**
Consider advocating on behalf of those experiencing homelessness and support affordable housing for all of our community members. For more information visit the Partners in Care Advocacy page at www.partnersincareoahu.org/advocacy
- 10 Treat everyone you meet with dignity and respect.**
With a smile and hello, you make someone who may feel invisible, feel like they matter.